(2) Owing to the restoration of several breached tanks which used to supply water to the hallas flowing into this tank, it does not now receive its former usual supply of water and gets dry now and then. Considering the extensive cultivation under this tank, it is desirable to have a perennial supply of water in it and it is suggested that the Chief Engineer may kindly investigate the possibility of feeding it by a channel drawn from a perennial river.

Reply of Government.—The Public Works Department will be required to examine the tank and the channels thoroughly and put them in order. If the ryots are willing to pay a cess there is no objection to transferring the maintenance to the P. W. Department.

SUBJECT No. 414.

Silt clearing in the Sulekere channels.

Mr. K. Shamaiengar, Channagiri Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—The subject of clearing silt in the Sulekere channels has been long under correspondence. The ryots in the locality have been refusing to do the work as being against mamool. The local conditions are not clearly understood by some officers in dealing with the case. The unwillingness of the ryots to do the annual maintenance work of these channels is due to the following reasons :—

(1) The work was not done at any time hitherto.

(2) Owing to the sparsity of population, the full atchkat of the tank and its channels is not cultivated, but only some portions of it here and there. The ryots cannot be made responsible for the condition of channels where they have no interest. The total extent of land that could be irrigated from the tank and the channels is about 6,000 acres. Of these, only 2,000 acres are under cultivation. It is not fair to expect these ryots to maintain the entire length of the channels. If necessary, their liability may be limited to such portions of the channels as actually pass through their lands. The ryots are willing to pay a cess if only the cost of maintaining the channels actually irrigating the land under cultivation is recovered from them.

(3) Ordinarily lands are liable only to dry assessment. A higher rate is charged thereon only when facilities are afforded by Government for growing wet crops by supplying water. The wet rate charged here is much higher than can be considered reasonable. In addition to this wet rate, the irrigation cess is also levied at one anna per rupee.

(4) Previous to the introduction of the survey, assessment was levied only when the tank received its supply of water and it used to be remitted when the supply failed. In consideration of this facility the ryots used to

execute the earthwork to the channels. Since the introduction of the survey, it is only the ryots' responsibility that is insisted upon, without a reciprocal advantage to them as existed previously.

(5) With the levy of the wet rate and the irrigation cess, the responsibility of maintaining the channels necessarily falls upon Government.

If such large irrigation works are transferred to the control of the Public Works Department, the annoyance now caused to the ryots of maintaining the channels ceases, as the cost of maintaining them has to be provided for in the budget.

Reply of Government.—Will be investigated. A report with statistics will be called for from the Deputy Commissioners.

SUBJECT No. 415.

Restoration of the mantap in the honda at Santebennur.

Mr. Nadig Bheema Rao, Channagiri Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—There is a fine mantap of architectural interest in the honda at Sentebennur, which was originally constructed at a heavy cost. For want of attention, the mantap is now in a deplorable condition. As Government have ordered the restoration of all buildings of architectural beauty and historical interest, it is prayed that early steps may be taken to restore this mantap to its original condition.

Reply of Government.—Recorded.

SUBJECT No 416.

A bridge across the "Tumbuvahole."

Mr. K. Shamaiengar, Channagiri Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—About 37 years ago a causeway was built at this place in the course of the Sulekere Kodihalla without leaving an opening for the free passage of water. In consequence of this, Government have been deprived of an annual income of ten to fifteen thousand rupees. The removal of this causeway and the construction of a bridge in lieu of it have been considered necessary by all responsible officers who have seen the locality, but nothing has yet been done in the matter. The existence of the present causeway not only submerges a large extent of cultivable land, but is also the cause of much unhealthiness, not to speak of frequent accidents to cattle which get stuck up in the mire. It is prayed that a bridge may be caused to be constructed at this spot and that facilities may be afforded for reclaiming the large extent of land now submerged under water for cultivation.

Reply of Government.—Will be investigated.

SUBJECT No. 417.

A hospital at Sulekere.

Mr. K. Shamaiengar, Channagiri Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—A large portion of the Channagiri Taluk lying around the Sulekere tank is unhealthy. To afford some relief to the suffering population, the Hospital Assistant at Channagiri visits this place once a week. But as this cannot go far to relieve the sufferings of the people in these parts, it is prayed that a hospital may be opened here permanently.